Holiday Safety Briefing

Purpose

To provide Commanders and Staffs an overview of holiday requirements and a short holiday reminders brief

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References

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Requirements

- Use vehicle restraints
- Get sufficient rest
- Do not drive under the influence
- Use Commander's Six-Point POV Safety Program to reduce risk of losses in your units
- Focus extra attention on suicide prevention and winter storm preparedness.

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Six-Point Program

- Command Emphasis
- Discipline
- Risk Management
- Standards
- Provide Alternatives
- Commander’s Assessment

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Holiday Reminders Brief

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The Holiday season is a time to celebrate with family and friends and to give thanks for our blessings. Unfortunately, the Holidays are often time when mishaps occur. This briefing is intended to help you decrease your chances of suffering a loss this Holiday season.

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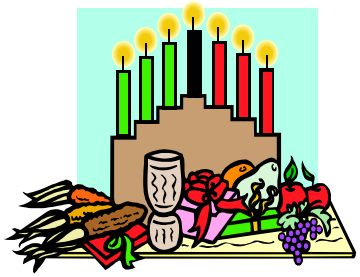
Holiday Decorations

- Use UL listed decorations.
- Always inspect cords for fraying and loose connections.
- Use outdoor-certified extension cords (some are inside only!)
- Use grounded extension cords in all locations
- Use the right tools (e.g. don’t use a chair when a ladder is needed)
- Do not use real candles on the tree.



Holiday Decorations
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- If you use a real tree keep the water level full and check the tree for dryness.
- Place candles away from curtains or other flammables.
- Unplug your decorations/lights when you go to bed.
- Keep a fire extinguisher handy.
- Poisonous decorative plants. Poinsettias, Holly, Mistletoe (pet and child Hazard)
- Remember to child-proof your decorations!

Holiday Cooking

- Turn handles on pots and pans inward on stove (burns).
- Do not leave cooking unattended (fire).
- Do not leave foods that require refrigeration out for too long (spoiled foods).
- Do not overeat. Too much food can cause you to sleep through football games.
- Test your smoke detectors.

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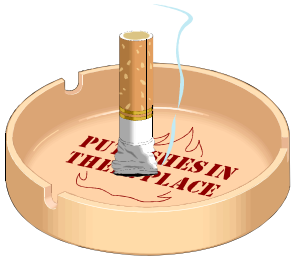
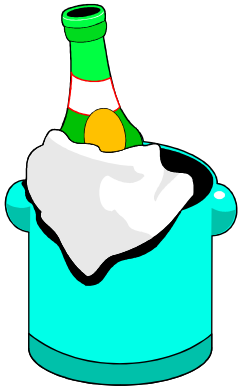
Twas the night before Christmas.....

Have you checked your Smoke

Celebrations

- Take your role as host seriously.
- Ensure Designated Drivers are available.
- Offer a place to stay if necessary.
- Provide plenty of food so the guest will not drink as much.
- Don’t push drinks.
- Provide for smokers and loose ashes.
- Provide non-alcoholic drink choices





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Cold Weather Driving

- Slow Down!
- Check mountain pass information – do what they say. Be prepared for delays.
- Steer in the direction of the skid
- Headlights on early
- Seatbelts fastened for all occupants before departing
- Replace wiper blades often
- Re-fill washer fluid often
- Never Drink and Drive

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Personal Protection in the Shopping Season

- Shop with a friend or family. There is safety in numbers.
- Be alert, stay in well lighted areas
- If you carry a purse, keep it in front of your body and close to you. Carry your keys in your pocket. If they get your purse at least they don't have the keys to your house and car.
- Dress casually. Thieves and pickpockets are attracted to expensive clothes and jewelry.
- Don't flash large amounts of cash.
- Lock your car and don't leave anything in plain sight.
- Avoid parking next to vans where thieves can hide.
- Check your car for uninvited guests prior to getting in.

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Buying Toys

- Select Toys to suit age, abilities, skills & the child's interest
- No small parts for infants & toddlers avoid (choking)
- No electric toys with heating elements for under 8
- Read the label and use the age guidelines for that toy
- Look for sturdy construction and tightly secured small parts
- Discard the plastic wrappings immediately
- Check the CSPC recall list on the internet www.cpsc.gov Call their hotline 800-638-2772 if you think they missed one.

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Air Travel Considerations

Preparation

- Expect increase security at the airports. (allow more time)
- Have a picture ID ready. (avoid using Military ID overseas)
- Don’t leave bags unattended or carry one for strangers.
- Keep carry-on luggage light & store under the seat in front of you.
- Watch for heavy items stored over your head.
- Pack any medicines or dietary needs in your carry-on bag.
- Dress for the climate you are going to.

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Air Travel Considerations
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In the Air

- Listen to your pre-flight safety briefing.
- Read the aircraft safety data card in the seat pocket. Be prepared to execute.
- Know where the emergency exits are from your seat. (count rows)
- Wear your seatbelt and keep it on even if the light is out.
- Use your risk management skills in the event of an emergency

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Have a Safe Holiday Season!

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